

Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claim Status

Claims 7-26 were presented. Claim 26, which is withdrawn from consideration as drawn to a non-elected invention, is canceled without prejudice. Claims 15 and 24 are also canceled, without prejudice. Claims 7, 9, 10, 13, 20 and 21 are amended. Claims 7-14, 16-23 and 25 are now pending.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102 and 103

Claims 7-12, 14-17 and 20-25 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Kimura (JP 2001-045686). Claim 13 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Kimura in view of Takase (JP 10-285852). Claims 18 and 19 are rejected as obvious over Kimura in view of Mizutani (US 5,532,533).

In response, applicant traverses the rejections and amends independent claims 7 and 21 to clarify and more clearly recite features that are not shown by any of the cited references. In particular, claim 7 (as filed) and claim 21 (as amended) recite a face on a radially outer portion of the rotor that is perpendicular to the rotational axis of the rotor and to which the magnetic poles are attached. Claims 7 and 21 further recite another face that is perpendicular to the rotational axis of the rotor that is formed in the stepwise drawn portion (see, for example, face 47 of FIG. 7). As described at page 9, lines 21-34 of applicant's specification, this feature is advantageous in that accurate gap control can be achieved by applying a certain pressure to the magnetic poles with a jig or the like using the other flat face as a reference, or by controlling the distance from the other face.

Kimura does not disclose such a configuration. Kimura's magnets 30 are mounted to a face that is *in parallel to the axis of rotation of rotor 20*, and are not mounted to a face that is perpendicular to the axis as is required by independent claims 7 and 21. The sketch at page 3 of the Action identifies another face (through which bolt 6 passes) that is perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the rotor, however, the claims also require that the face on which the magnetic poles are

mounted also be perpendicular to the axis of rotation. Thus, the two faces in Kimura are *perpendicular to each other*, and do not have the advantages of accurate gap control that are provided by applicant's claimed invention. Takase and Mizutani do not remedy the deficiencies of Kimura in this regard.

Claims 7 and 21 are also amended to recite that the shaft portion is a drawn shaft portion, and that the shaft portion is supported by bearings (61, 62) in the case (201) to which the stator is fixed. This feature is also not shown by any of the references of record.

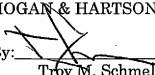
Since claims 7 and 21 recite multiple features that are neither shown nor suggested by any of Kimura, Takase and Mizutani, claims 7 and 21 cannot be anticipated by Kimura, and cannot be obvious over Kimura in view of either Takase or Mizutani. Claims 8-14, 16-20, 22, 23 and 25, which are amended for consistency with the amendments to claims 7 and 21, distinguish over the cited references for the same reasons. Thus, the rejections under 35 USC 102 and 103 should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

This application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after consideration and entry of this amendment. Any fees due with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
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